

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicant's amendment inserting the limitation the polyester fibers are prepared by polymerizing an aromatic dicarboxylic acid and a diol has overcome the art rejection of record. None of the art of record teaches, suggests, anticipates or renders obvious the claimed high tenacity nonwoven fabric having the claimed layers made up of the claimed fibers having the claimed fiber diameters, with the claimed intrusion index, basis weight, bulk density, fine fiber crystallinity and solution relative viscosity.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elizabeth M. Cole whose telephone number is (571) 272-1475. The examiner may be reached between 6:30 AM and 6:00 PM Monday through Wednesday, and 6:30 AM and 2 PM on Thursday.

The examiner's supervisor Angela Ortiz may be reached at (571) 272-1206.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

The fax number for all official faxes is (571) 273-8300.

/Elizabeth M. Cole/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1798

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